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(54) Title: INHIBITORS OF THE MAP KINASE PATHWAY

(57) Abstract: MAP kinases (e.g., ERK1/2) phosphorylate a variety of target proteins including, for example, several immediate early gene products (e.g., Fos, Myc, and Jun family proteins). Certain phosphorylation reactions require binding of the MAP kinase to the DEF domain of the target protein. Inhibitors that block this interaction may be useful therapeutics for human disease, including as antineoplastic agents. Also disclosed are screening assays useful for identifying compounds that inhibit the MAP kinase-DEF domain interaction.

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